

COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015

6:00 P.M. PROMPT

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- **BUDGET HEARINGS**

- **6:00 P.M. POLICE DEPARTMENT**
- **6:30 P.M. FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Bedford City Council met in a Budget Work Session at Bedford City Hall on Monday, October 26, 2015 at 6:03 p.m.

Present: Council Members: Mayor Stan Koci, Sandy Spinks, Walter Genutis, Marilyn Zolata, Paula Mizesak, Donald Saunders, Greg Pozar. Absent: None. Also Present: Clerk of Council Lorree Villers. Administration: City Manager Michael Mallis, Finance Director Frank Gambosi, Law Director John Montello, Police Chief Kris Nietert, Fire Chief Dave Nagy and Assistant Fire Chief Shawn Solar.

Police Department

Mr. Mallis was pleased with the new K-9 Officer and the day to day operations at the Police Department lead by Chief Nietert. He was pleased with the decrease in overtime in the Police Department; both Police Chiefs were assisting in City patrolling to maintain the overall overtime costs.

Chief Nietert said overall the department was functioning well. He was working on hiring three more Officers in 2016, he hoped to get back on a schedule for police car rotations, the department was working on grants to purchase new equipment to monitor speeders at a cost of \$1,200 each, the department was in need of a hand held gun for speed violators, the department purchased a new server and there was an ongoing need for new Jail cameras. Thanks to the local Eagles the department was able to purchase a very nice used Harley for traffic enforcement. The new Dispatch Center was struggling and was having problems that needed addressed. Budget discussion was held concerning the 2 ½% union pay increase and the anticipated decrease in medical expenses at a \$100,000 difference. It was determined the Auxiliaries were still being utilized for patrols at the car lots and burglaries. Another cost savings was the event applicants were now paying for their own Auxiliary coverage. Budgeted fuel cost was questioned because the cost of gasoline had decreased since last year. Chief Nietert explained the Explorers got better gas mileage than the Tahoe SUV's so that was a savings. He said the department was now able to donate a decent used patrol car to another department if someone needed a car. Parking violators were discussed and it was determined the time spent on these violators was not time well spent. These violators would argue a \$15 parking ticket and not a \$120 speeding ticket. Overall Council was pleased with the performance of the Police Department and the outcome of the budget. Chief Nietert thanked Council for their support and time.

Fire Department

Mr. Mallis noted the Fire Department was currently at full staff with the help of the recent grant. Chief Nagy commended Assistant Chief Solar for all his efforts for his grant applications. He stressed the Fire Department was definitely committed to the community, they were well trained and very qualified. He thanked Council for their support, the ongoing training, the well maintained vehicles, equipment and facility. Discussion was held whether Maple Heights had become a burden for Bedford. Chief Nagy replied it was basically a wash; neither community was suffering. Discussion was held regarding the 1995 Fire Levy and if there was a need for another levy in the future. It was determined if the staffing didn't support both squads then one was not utilized. Both Chiefs thanked Council for their ongoing support.

The Work Session adjourned at 7:30 p.m.


Clerk of Council
Mayor – President of Council